

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1947
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
including the report
of the
BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
5 Lind Street,
RYDE, I.W.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Ryde Borough Corporation.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report of the Borough of Ryde for the year 1947.

The year has again brought the appointment of a new Medical Officer to your Corporation, for, in November, 1947, Dr. H. C. Calvey resigned his post on his appointment as Senior Clinical Tuberculosis Officer to the County of Kent, and, on December 10th, I had the honour to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

As Dr. Calvey continued in office until December 31st, the report appended consists only of a summary of the vital statistics of the Borough and a precis of the work of the department under Dr. Calvey's direction.

The standard of health of the Borough remained satisfactory.

I have to report a continued rise in the birth rate, but for the first time for some years there has been a rise in the death rate.

The infantile mortality figure continues to fall and the maternal mortality figure remains low.

The outstanding feature epidemiologically was the outbreak of infantile paralysis which occurred throughout the country in the summer and autumn of the year. The Borough escaped relatively lightly as compared with the rest of the county as a whole, only five cases being notified and there being no deaths from the disease.

In addition, there was a sharp outbreak of measles in the early months of the year, in all 198 cases of the disease being notified, but again we were extremely fortunate and escaped without a single death from this cause.

(Continued)



(2)

Two cases of diphtheria occurred and, when the immunisation figures are examined and it is found that the percentage of pre-school children considered to be immunised has fallen from its already extremely low figure to 24.2%, it is felt that the situation is now such that it gives cause for quite genuine alarm.

All facilities for free immunisation exist and the apathy of parents is difficult to understand in having their children protected against this highly dangerous, prolonged, disabling and, even yet in some cases, fatal disease.

If the risk of a diphtheria epidemic is to be avoided, an all out effort will be required to encourage parents to fulfil their obligation towards their children and have the relatively painless, simple, and easy procedure carried out so they may reap the benefit they have the security medical science has offered them.

There has been a considerable increase in the total estimated population and the housing shortage in the Borough is now desperately acute.

There are many cases of gross overcrowding being brought to the attention of the health department and several houses are now in such a condition that in the ordinary way they would merit the request of a closing order.

The almost complete absence of alternative accommodation leaves the department powerless to alleviate the condition, and the consequent domestic difficulty, unhappiness and consequent ill health is impossible to compute.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. CAMERON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1947.

Medical Officer of Health: John S. Cameron,^{*} M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Appointed December 10th, 1947)

Borough Sanitary Inspector: Albert Ainley,^{*} Sanitary Inspector's
and Meat Inspector's Certificates, Royal
Sanitary Institute; Certificate and Diploma
Sanitary Inspector's Association Examination
Board.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector: S. Dunmore.

Clerk: Doreen Boyce.

Health and Infant Protection Visitor: Miss E. H. Moss,^e
S.R.N. S.C.M.

^e Part time Officer.

^{*} Salary Contribution by Exchequer Grants.

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A - STATISTICS. (1) General.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Area, in acres | 7,876 |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1947) | |
| according to rate books | 5,780 |
| Rateable Value | £161,606 |
| Sum represented by a ld. rate | £652. 4. 3. |

(2) Vital.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Population (Registrar's Figure) | 19,530 |
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population | 19.4 |
| Live Birth Rate England and Wales | 20.5 |
| Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Still and Live Births) | 10.4 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population | 15.0 |
| Death Rate England and Wales | 12.0 |
| Deaths from Puerperal causes:- | |
| Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births) | |
| From Sepsis | Nil. |
| From other causes | 2.6 |

Death Rate:-

| | |
|--|------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births | 31.7 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | 28.5 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | 71.4 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | Nil. |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough | Nil. |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | 2 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 35 |

B - GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Information regarding such services was fully set out in previous Reports. There are no changes to record.

Child Life Protection

- (a) Number of persons on register receiving children for reward at the end of year None.
- (b) Number of children on the register
- (1) At the end of year None.
- (2) Who died during the year "
- (3) On whom inquests were held during the year "

The general standard of cleanliness in this Borough is high and the amount of infestation is minimal.

The methods adopted for promotion of hygiene are vigorous and prompt, this obviating contagion by contact.

The action is facilitated by reason of the fact that there is a close liaison between the Health Visitor acting for the Borough and the School Nurse working under the auspices of the County Council, both resident under the Superintendent of the District Nursing Association. The latter is officially appointed as Infant Life Protection Visitor in the Borough.

Furthermore, the Medical Officer of Health acts in the capacity of School Medical Officer. Where extreme measures are necessary assistance is afforded by the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C.

C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.Water

A pure constant supply of water has been maintained during the year.

The following number of water samples were examined during the year:-

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Bacteriological | 12 |
| Chemical | Nil |

All were found to be highly satisfactory.

Chlorination of all sources of water continues according to the Ministry of Health requirements, but the minimum dosage is required in view of the clarity and purity of these virginal sources.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>Total Cases Notified.</u> | <u>Cases Admitted to Hospital.</u> | <u>Total Deaths.</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 5 | 3 | - |
| Diphtheria | 2 | 2 | - |
| Meningitis (Cerebro- Spinal Fever) | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 2 | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | - |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | 1 | 1 | - |
| Measles | 198 | 3 | - |
| Whooping Cough | 11 | - | - |
| Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis | 5 | 5 | - |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 1 | - | - |
| Pneumonia | 11 | - | 2 |
| | <u>236</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>2</u> |

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION

| Age | Scarlet Fever | Diphtheria | (Encephalitis (Lethargica | puerperal Pyrexia | Pneumonia | Erysipelas | (Cerebro Spinal (Meningitis | (Ophthalmia (Neonatorum | Measles | Whooping Cough | (Ac. Anterior (Polomyelitis |
|-------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Under 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | - |
| 1 & under 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 11 | - | - |
| 2 " " 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | 1 | - |
| 3 " " 4 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17 | 2 | 1 |
| 4 " " 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 26 | 3 | - |
| 5 " " 10 | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 102 | 3 | 1 |
| 10 " " 15 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - |
| 15 " " 20 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 20 " " 35 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 6 | - | 1 |
| 35 " " 45 | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 45 " " 65 | - | - | 1 | - | 4 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 65 " over. | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 11 | - | - | 1 | 198 | 11 | 5 |

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases Return
from Head Teachers of Schools

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Mumps | 109 |
| Chicken Pox | 24 |
| German Measles | 8 |
| Influenza | - |
| Scabies | 1 |
| Ringworm | - |
| Impetigo | - |
| Jaundice | - |
| Shingles | 1 |
| | <u>143</u> |

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Percentage of the child population it is considered were immunised at 31.12.47. | Age under <u>5 years</u> 24.2 | <u>5-15 years</u> 59.7 |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|

(This estimate includes, so far as can be assessed, children immunised in the Authority's area by private arrangement and children who have come into the area after being immunised elsewhere.)

Tuberculosis 1947.

| Age Periods | Total | NEW CASES | | | | Total | DEATHS | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|-----------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|
| | | Pulmonary | | Non-pulmonary | | | Pulmonary | | Non-pulmonary | |
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 1 & under 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 5 " " 10 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 10 " " 15 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 15 " " 20 | 3 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 20 " " 25 | 4 | 1 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 25 " " 35 | 8 | 7 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 35 " " 45 | 6 | 3 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | - | |
| 45 " " 55 | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | |
| 55 " " 65 | 4 | 1 | 3 | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | |
| 65 " over. | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | |
| TOTALS | 34 ^x | 15 | 17 | 2 | - | 13 ^ø | 6 | 7 | - | - |

* This total includes two old cases left Island and returned, four cases in which the death return gave the first information, and ten transfers from the mainland.

ø This total includes four cases in which the death return gave the first information, and one case who died from another disease.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1947,
FOR THE BOROUGH OF RYDE, IN THE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

| Premises. | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written notices | Occupiers prosecuted. |
| (1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 61 | 94 | - | - |
| (11) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 37 | 45 | - | - |
| (111) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding out-workers' premises.) | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 98 | 139 | - | - |

(Continued)

FACTORIES ACT, 1937. (cont.)

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

| Particulars. | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|--|--|----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | Referred By H.M. Inspector. | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 18 | 18 | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | - | - | - | - | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - |
| TOTAL | 20 | 20 | 2 | 2 | - |

MILK SUPPLY

Milk is produced at 53 Dairy Farms in the area: 27 persons are registered as producer-retailers, 26 as producer wholesalers and 15 as retailers only.

No milk samples were examined for bacterial content or tubercle bacilli.

FOOD ANALYSIS

The following samples of food were purchased by the County Officials, for analysis:-

| | | | |
|---------------|----|--------------------|---|
| Milk | 18 | Lemon Squash | 3 |
| Butter | 3 | Tincture of Iodine | 2 |
| Raspberry Jam | 3 | | |

All were certified by the County Analyst to be of genuine quality.

FOOD DESTROYED

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Meat | 8 cwts. |
| Fish | 19 cwts. 20 lbs. |
| Chicken | 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. |
| Sausages | 13 lbs. |
| Eggs | 110 doz. |
| Fish Cakes | 30 boxes |
| Yeast | 61 - 7 lb. bags |
| Biscuits | 9 - 28 lb. tins |
| Cashew Nuts | 1 - 25 lb. tin. |

FOOD DESTROYED (Continued)

| | | |
|----------------|-----|---------|
| Meat | 202 | tins |
| Milk | 457 | " |
| Fish | 151 | " |
| Vegetables | 264 | " |
| Fruit | 95 | " |
| Soup | 37 | " |
| Jam | 55 | " |
| Tomatoes | 36 | " |
| Pickles | 32 | jars |
| Dates | 83 | lbs |
| Prunes | 30 | " |
| Pinto Beans | 50 | " |
| Macaroni | 16 | " |
| Soups | 33 | packets |
| Wheat | 10 | " |
| Barley Kernals | 5 | " |
| Cake Mixture | 11 | " |
| Flour | 3 | " |

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SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

| | |
|---|-----|
| Bakehouses | 56 |
| Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops | 341 |
| Foodshops | 267 |
| Ice Cream Shops | 65 |
| Restaurant Kitchens | 49 |
| Dwellinghouses (P.H. Acts) | 385 |
| " Re-inspections | 793 |
| Drainage and other Sanitary works in progress | 201 |
| Factories with mechanical power) including | 45 |
| " without " ") bakehouses | 94 |
| Schools | 24 |
| Shops Acts | 321 |
| Hackney Carriages | 235 |
| Miscellaneous | 355 |
| Owners, Agents and Builders interviewed | 244 |
| Cinemas | 10 |
| Drain Tests | 31 |
| Complaints | 430 |
| Petroleum Stores | 65 |

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REMEDIAL WORKSNumber of Dwellinghouses

| | |
|--|-----|
| Ceilings repaired | 18 |
| Chimney stack repaired or reconstructed | 7 |
| Cooking range repaired | 3 |
| Copper repaired | 1 |
| Disinfested (Council Houses | 1 |
| (Other Houses | 21 |
| Damp and defective walls remedied | 37 |
| Doors repaired | 18 |
| Drains unstopped | 65 |
| Drains repaired or reconstructed | 101 |
| Eaves gutters or downspouts repaired or renewed | 21 |
| Firegrates repaired or renewed | 12 |
| Floors repaired | 32 |
| Roof made watertight | 82 |
| Staircase repaired | 2 |
| Wall plaster repaired | 14 |
| Walls and ceilings cleansed | 7 |
| Water closet (new) provided | 69 |
| Water closet flushing cistern provided or existing flushing cistern repaired | 41 |
| Windows repaired or renewed | 25 |
| Yard paving repaired or renewed | 14 |

Number of Cowsheds

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Limewashed on request | 49 |
| New manger provided | 3 |
| New stalls provided | 3 |
| New floors provided | 3 |
| Drainage improved | 3 |
| Lighting improved | 2 |
| Ventilation improved | 2 |

Number of Dairies

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Limewashed on request | 27 |
|-----------------------|----|

Number of Factories

| | |
|--|----|
| Limewashed on request (including Bakehouses) | 18 |
|--|----|

Number of Disinfections

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Bedding | 19 |
| Dwellinghouses | 13 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Formal Notices Served | - |
| Informal Notices Served | 356 |

